IRONDALE NEWSLETTER

Produced by the Bark Lake Cultural Developments

June / July 2025

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Carol 705-457-8438

Irondale Community Centre

Advisory Committee
of
Minden Hills Council

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lorne.buckingham@sympatico.ca

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50th Anniversary—Beaver named as official symbol of Canada

The beaver was already an important part of many Indigenous groups' culture.

The beaver has been recognized as a symbol representing Canada from the early 17th century.

Beaver pelts were an important part of the economy of New France.

On March 24, 1975, it was designated by Canadian Parliament as an official symbol of Canada.

Information taken from various sources.

American annexation threats date back to colonial times — but Canadians have resisted being "conquered into liberty."

"The Unanimous Voice of the Continent is Canada must be ours, Quebec must be taken." So declared John Adams, a future American founding father, in a February 1776 letter to James Warren, a fellow rebel from Massachusetts. Adams did not realize when he wrote his letter that the nascent American republic's attempt to liberate Canada from Britain was already all but lost. A desperate attack on Quebec City during a snowstorm on December 31, 1775, had failed miserably.

It was not the first time, nor the last, that residents of the Thirteen Colonies sought to conquer Canada, a vaguely defined territory, first appeared on European maps in the mid-1500s. Its borders expanded & contracted depending on who was drawing the map, but the central core remained the area along the St. Lawrence River between Quebec City & Montreal. Ever since France had begun sending colonists to Canada in the early 1600s to build New France, those colonists had come into conflict with the English settlers of the Thirteen Colonies — now the American eastern seaboard states.

Several generations of politicians have assured us the Americans are our greatest friends and allies, reminding us that the two countries share the longest undefended border in the world. Lulled by this refrain, Canadians have been able to ignore the existential threat of living beside the more populous, powerful and periodically expansionist United States. The repeated threats by U.S. President Donald Trump has brought this collective delusion to an abrupt end.

To prepare for an uncertain future, Canadians should look at past efforts by our southern neighbours to conquer Canada. There are lessons to be learned.

This is an excerpt from the latest issue of Canada's History entitled 'Friend or Foe'.
To read the entire article please go to ***https://www.canadashistory.ca/explore/politics-law/friend-or-foe?utm_source=Canada%27sHistory+Newsletter&utm_campaign=06233a66d3-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2025_05_05_06_55&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-06233a66d3-284050273+***

Gladys "Madeleine" Howarth was born on August 28th, 1919, in Vaughan Township to David and Gladys (Cowie) Rumble. As the middle child between her siblings Stewart and Isobel, she grew up in a warm and hardworking family. Her early years were spent attending S.S. 19 Patterson School before moving on to Richmond Hill High School. Determined to pursue a career in education, she continued her studies at Normal School a.k.a. Teachers College.

Madeleine began her teaching career in 1940 in Thornloe/ New Liskeard area, educating students from Grades 1 to 8 in a one-room schoolhouse. Summers were spent farming at home, a testament to her tireless work ethic. While teaching, she met a young man named Harold Howarth and they dated for less than a year before he proposed. They were to be married in December, but one summer day when he went to fetch his mail at the post office, the postmaster suggested that he shouldn't bother with getting his mail but go marry his sweetheart instead, by which he knew that his enrollment papers for the War would be in there. On the advice of the town's postmaster, he postponed collecting his mail and he rushed down to the Rumble farm. Without hesitation, he spoke to Madeleine's mother, asking, "How soon can you ice the cake?" A week later, they were married on the family farm, on August 20th,1942, surrounded by loved ones, and they honeymooned in Irondale, near Haliburton, where Madeleine had family connections.

..... In 1976, they relocated to Irondale, where they immersed themselves in the community and the local Anglican church. Despite not being Anglican themselves, they appreciated the welcoming, multi-denominational spirit of the congregation. Madeleine took an active role in the church, particularly in the children's programs. Her faith, which had been the foundation of her life since her teenage years, remained her guiding light.

The hills, forests and lakes of Irondale called to Madeleine. The fellowship she & Harold fostered there grew, the community became like a second family to them. Hardly a day would go by without a visitor dropping in to say hello. It was her happy place and she spent time there every year until she was 100.

..... As an accomplished artist, she even ***won third prize for a watercolor painting at 104***, and was a founding member of the Elmwood Starz Art Group. She also enjoyed knitting, scrabble and playing cards, especially euchre and cribbage. Beyond her artistic talents, she was known for her famous homemade grape juice, canning skills, and her love of Kawartha Dairy ice cream and fish and chips. She regularly entered her baking & artwork in the Kinmount Fair near Irondale alongside her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, winning countless times.

Editor's Note: We haven't published obituaries' before; I learned so much about this special lady reading hers. She was well integrated into the Irondale area. The entire obituary can be found at **rhodyfamily.com**

When Madeleine summered in Irondale, she stayed in the small red insul-brick home on Irondale Rd. Other family members own the property now. Many of us have missed Madeleine's attendance at weekly Euchre games. She always gave a polite little grin when she euchred you.

"What is full of pains and never feels them?"

A Window

with heartfelt sympathy

Since the last issue we learned we lost members of our community.

~ ~ ~

Reinhart 'Ron' Fritz Scheer
Nov 15, 2024
Husband of Doreen
Father to Susan & Mark
his siblings John & Ursula

~ ~ ~

Erna Boehm
Nov 21, 2024
Mother of Vera & Roman
Grandmother of
Tamra, Morgan and Logan

~ ~ ~

Susan 'Sue' (Maxwell) Scheffee
Jan 2 2025
Daughter of Aubrey & Hazel Maxwell
her siblings Malcolm, Lois, Bonnie,
Cheryl, Diane & Cathy

~ ~ ~

Melville Wilfrid Simmons
Apr 26, 2025
Husband of Rudy Stroud (deceased)
Father of Dale, Beverly & David

~ ~ ~

Ranold Ferguson Wright
Apr 27, 2025
Husband of Norma Wright (deceased)
Stepfather of Jim (Dorothy) Fenney

~ ~ ~

"Gone from our sight,
but never from our hearts"

The following is copied from a past issue of the Haliburton Highlands Genealogy Group's newsletters

SS. No 1 & 8 Glamorgan & Snowdon Irondale. History of the School **cont'd from April May '25 issue**

From the Log Book in the General Register 1935-44

Our present Inspector since 1933 is Mr. Brown from Haliburton. The present teacher for 1935 Miss Leona Pickens of Gooderham. The board of trustees—Mr. Y.C. Graham, Mr. Geo. Simmons, Mr. James Dexter. Secretary—Mr. Alfred James

In the fall of 1939 a complete turnover took place covering the local, county and world affairs. Of these the most important was the commencement of another world war. Mr. Stouffer was appointed Inspector and took up his residence at Minden. The teacher for the year 1939-40 was Waler B. Dubois of Toronto. The trustees were Y.C. Graham, G. Simmons, H.S. Wright with A. James as secretary-treasurer.

In September 1940, Mr. E.G. Rankin arrived to teach. He stayed until Christmas. On Jan 21 Miss Dorothy Tice began teaching after the school remaining closed from Christmas until then. Trustees for the 1940-41 are Mr. Geo. Simmons, Mr. Y.C. Graham and Mr. Homer Wright. Secretary—Mr. Alfred James.

Mrs. Vera Taylor began teaching in September 1941 and stayed until Christmas. Mrs. Kathleen Carr started teaching on Jan 5 1942.

Trustees for 1942 are: Mr. Y.C. Graham, Mr. Homer Wright, Mr. Geo Simmons Jr. Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. E. Hancock.
Trustees for 1943 are: Mr. Y.C. Graham, Chairman, Mr. Don Simmons, Mr. Len Milburn, Sec. Treas. Mrs. E. Hancock
Trustees for 1944 Trustees are: Mr. L Milburn, Chairman, Mr. Y.C. Graham and Mr. D. Simmons

From the Log Book in the General Register 1945-48

Trustees for 1945: Mr. Don Simmons, Chairman, Mr. Y.C. Graham, Mr. Max Hancock, Sec.Treas Mrs. E. Hancock. School desks and seats have been fastened to runners. It keeps them much steadier and improves the appearance of the school room.

Trustees for 1946 are: Y.C. Graham, Chairman, Don Simmons, Max Hancock, Sec. Treas Mrs. E. Hancock

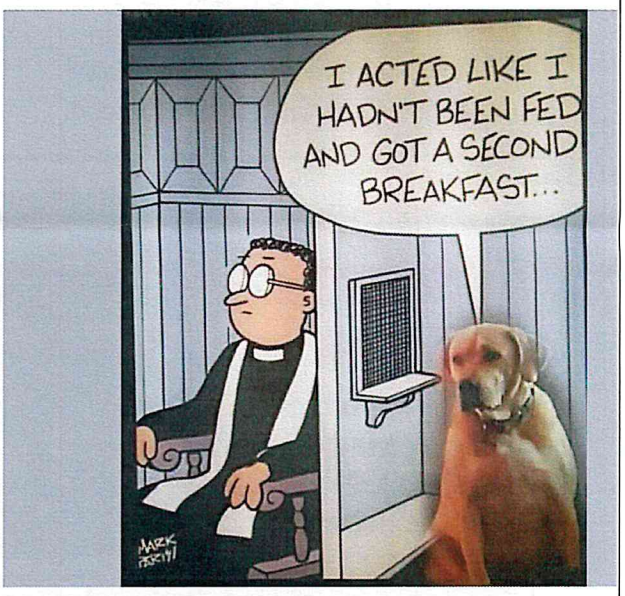
Two new gates have been purchased... A stone walk has been started... fourteen second-hand seats have been purchased, but have not been fastened to the floor... We bought a second-hand organ, in good tune and fair condition ... About three inches of Rock wool has been laid above the ceiling. It made quite a difference in the temperature of the room. Our Christmas concert was a success. We had a large crowd, (about ninety). Mr. Stouffer acted as Chairman, and all had a fine time. Proceeds spent—part for Red Cross and part for books etc. for school.

A Hallowe'en celebration was held in the school; about fifty guests present. Mr. Orie Mintz and Mr. Lourie formed an orchestra for the evening. Many residents appeared in costume. After a short programme and games, refreshment were served. The proceeds were used to purchase a reproduction of Tom Thompson's West Wind. Again at Christmas a delightful programme and box social was held in the school. The proceeds was used to purchase playground equipment.

In March, Betty Simmons won a bird book and box of water colors in the Reo Motor's Contest. The I.O.D.E. presented the school with an oil painting of the Auction Sale. Mr. Max Hancock secured a game of volley ball and spent an afternoon putting the new up on the school grounds.

School closed with a delightful picnic held at the eddy.

credit "off the mark" comic by Mark Parisi



This is my Louie .. Always hungry

The United Church of Canada celebrates 100 years

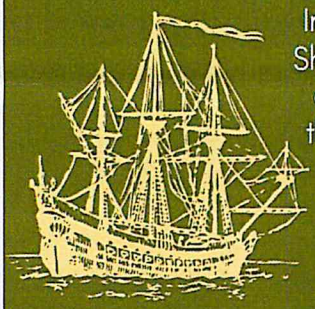
The United Church was inaugurated on June 10, 1925 in Toronto at the Mutual St. Arena. The union of the Methodist Church of Canada, the Congregational Union of Canada, the General Council of the Local Union Churches as well as 70% of the Presbyterian Churches in Canada resulted in what we know today as the United Church.

THE HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS GENEALOGY GROUP PRESENTS

SPEAKER SERIES 2025

TUESDAY
JUNE 17
7:00 P.M.

200th Anniversary of Peter Robinson Immigration



In this 200th anniversary year, the Nine Ships 1825 Inc. will present an historical overview of the immigration scheme that brought 2,000 impoverished Irish settlers to Ontario under Peter Robinson, and its relevance to Haliburton County, where some descendants later settled.

Home Children Canada's president Lori Oschefski presents the experiences of the over 100,000 destitute children forcibly sent to Canada between 1869 and the 1940s, with dozens placed in Haliburton County. September 28 is proclaimed as British Home Child Day in Canada.

WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 17
1:30 P.M.

Canada's British Home Children - A Hidden History

TUESDAY
OCTOBER 21
7:00 P.M.

In The Footsteps of Heroes - Canadian WW2 Battlefields, Memorials & Cemeteries

Belinda Wilson joins us during this 80th Anniversary of the end of WW2 to share her Royal Canadian Legion Pilgrimage of Remembrance – a journey to Canadian battlefields, memorials, and cemeteries in northern France and Belgium, illustrated with photos, stories, and songs.

Free Admission | Refreshments available
Location: Minden Hills Cultural Centre
176 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden, K0M 2K0
For more info, please contact hhggroup@gmail.com

In Partnership with
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Books about Haliburton County

In Quest of Yesterday, by Nila Reynolds

Muskoka & Haliburton 1615-1875, by Florence B. Murray

Whispering Pines (several volumes) by John S. Hulbig

Haliburton by Rail & the I.B.&O, by Taylor Wilkins

More Facts & Legends of Haliburton County, by Hal. Secondary School

Haliburton History in Pictures, by Hal. Museum

A Hospital of our own, by Martha Perkins Gammon

Haliburton in Highland Ont, by Michael Barnes

Generation to Generation, by Marjorie Ludlow Green

Building a River, following a Dream, Roger Parson's story

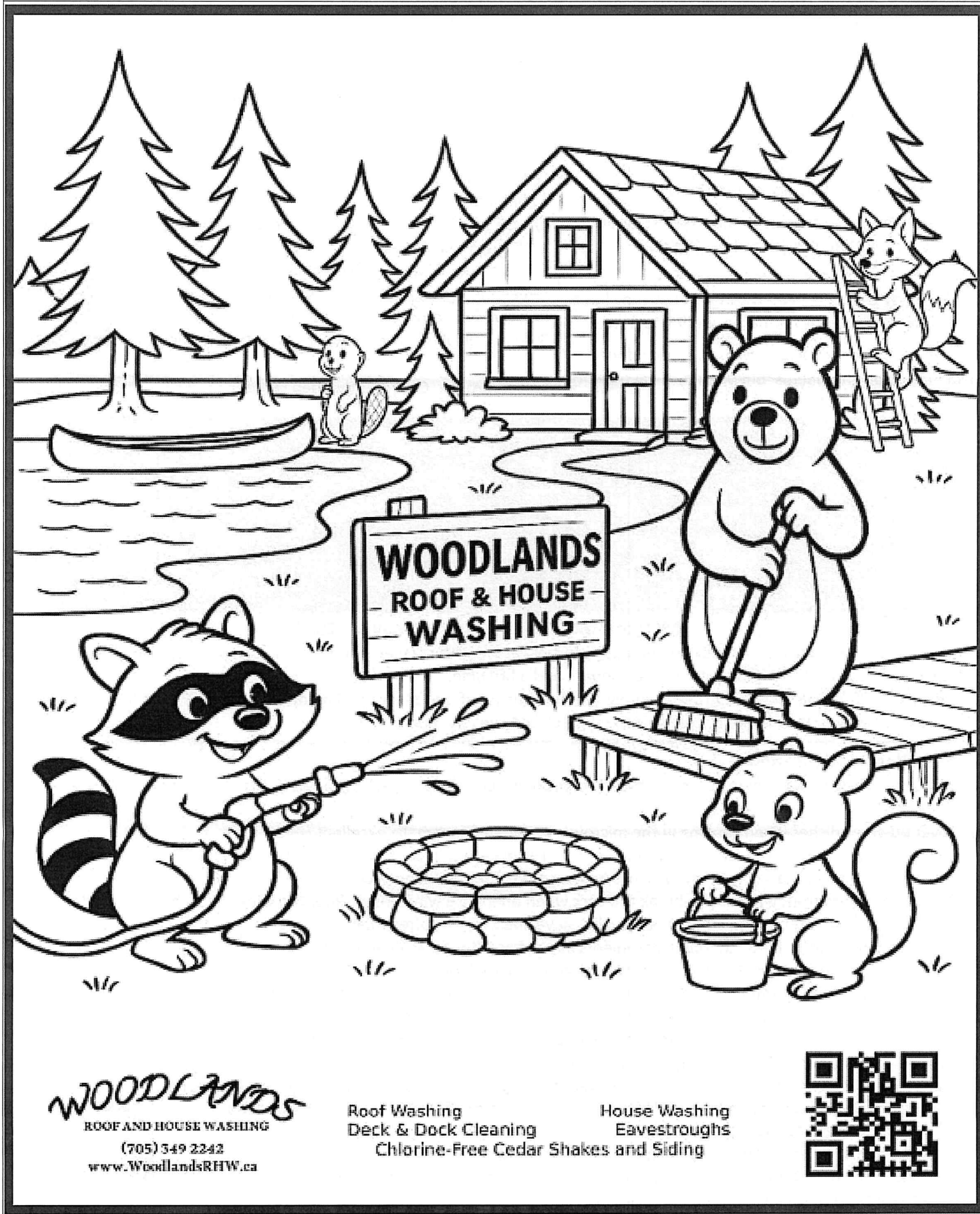
Highlights of Haliburton's Past, by Haliburton Highlands Information Centre

Centenial: Haliburton Village, 1864-1974, Hal County, 1874-1974 , by Ronald J. Curry

Haliburton Highlands, by Chris Bishop

Miners' Bay Lodge, the first 50 years, by Russell J. Wunker

— there are more to list ... available at our local library or can be found to purchase online from various used book store sellers.



Woodlands Roof and House Washing business owner is Carol Simmons' son.

Susie's Musings

"Be thankful for all the struggles you go through. They make you stronger, wiser, and humble. Do not let it break you. Let it make you." unknown author

Did you know that butterflies rest when it rains—it damages their wings. It's okay to rest during the storms of life. You'll fly again once it's over.

Never lose hope because even the smallest amount of light can get you through the darkest days.

No one has the right to judge you, because no one knows what you have been through. They may have heard stories, but they didn't feel what you have.

Being negative only makes a journey more difficult. You may be given a cactus, but you don't have to sit on it. ~ Joyce Meyer

Shirley's Date Squares

Date Filling-

3 cups chopped dates (Shirley uses 4 cups)
1 1/2 cups water 1 cup brown sugar
Place the above ingredients into a large pot and cook over low heat for 10 minutes, stirring constantly until thickened.

Crumble Base & Topping-

1 cup butter 1 3/4 cups flour
1/2 tsp salt 1/2 tsp baking soda
1 1/2 cups rolled oats
Mix together butter and brown sugar, then add remaining ingredients. Mix until it appears crumbly. Press half of crumb mixture into a 9" x 13" pan. Spread will filling. Top remaining crumbs, pressing lightly. Bake in a 350° oven for 25 to 30 min, until golden brown. Cool slightly, then serve.

Mother's Day Dinner, Saturday May 10, 2025

A great bunch of people enjoyed our homemade Sirloin Meat Pie with mashed potatoes, carrots, peas, cabbage and salad. Dessert was Danish rice pudding with a lemon square and a brownie.
In the picture, Kurt and Carol are drawing names for the Penny Raffle prizes we had on offer. Everyone went home 'fed up to the gills' , some even took home prizes. Lots of laughter and conversation.

Coffee filters .... Who knew!

I didn't know there were so many uses — other than making a great cup of perked coffee. Thanks to a Facebook post—you know now too.

1. Cover bowls or dishes when cooking in the microwave. Coffee filters make excellent covers.
2. Clean windows, mirrors, and chrome... Coffee filters are lint-free so they'll leave windows sparkling.
3. Protect China by separating your good dishes with a coffee filter between each dish.
4. Filter broken cork from wine. If you break the cork when opening a wine bottle, filter the wine through a coffee filter.
5. Recycle frying oil. After frying, strain oil through a sieve lined with a coffee filter.
6. Weigh chopped foods. Place chopped ingredients in a coffee filter on a kitchen scale.
7. Hold tacos. Coffee filters make convenient wrappers for messy foods.
8. Line a plant pot with a coffee filter to prevent the soil from going through the drainage holes.
9. Do you think we used expensive strips to wax eyebrows? Use strips of coffee filters..
10. Put a few in a plate and put your fried bacon, French fries, chicken fingers, etc on them. It soaks out all the grease.
11. Keep in the bathroom. They make great "razor nick fixers."
12. As a sewing backing. Use a filter as an easy-to-tear backing for embroidering or appliqueing soft fabrics.
13. Put baking soda into a coffee filter and insert into shoes or a closet to absorb or prevent odors.
14. Use them to strain soup stock and to tie fresh herbs in to put in soups and stews.
15. Use them as a spoon rest while cooking and clean up small counter spills.
16. Prevent a Popsicle from dripping. Poke one or two holes as needed in a coffee filter.
17. Use them to wrap Christmas ornaments for storage.
18. Use them to remove fingernail polish when out of cotton balls.

Note: There were more ideas but run out of room.

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Children's Art Classes

We have an talented individual that is interested in offering art classes at the Irondale Church hall. These would be two hour sessions to be offered June, July or August.

Please email historical@IrondaleOntario.ca, call or text 705-457-8438 and we will forward your interest.

Let's see if we can't inspire those creative minds for a few hours this summer.

Taken from August 8 1873 issue of the Peterborough Review:

The New Pit—The new road from Coboconk to Minden was commenced last week, and there is a fair prospect of its being opened throughout for winter travel. It will probably be finished for summer traffic next spring. The sum granted by the Government was $3,800, and J.D. Naylor, Esq, of Fenelon is superintending the construction of the road, having for his assistant Mr. Neilson, the Reeve of Lutterworth. Both these gentlemen are perfectly reliable, and the money will be laid out judiciously. Upon the opening of this road the back country will be placed in a very good position, for Minden will be only twenty miles from the railway station, and new settlers can have no difficulty in reaching the northern settlement.

PLEASE FOLLOW US *www.facebook/IrondaleOntario*

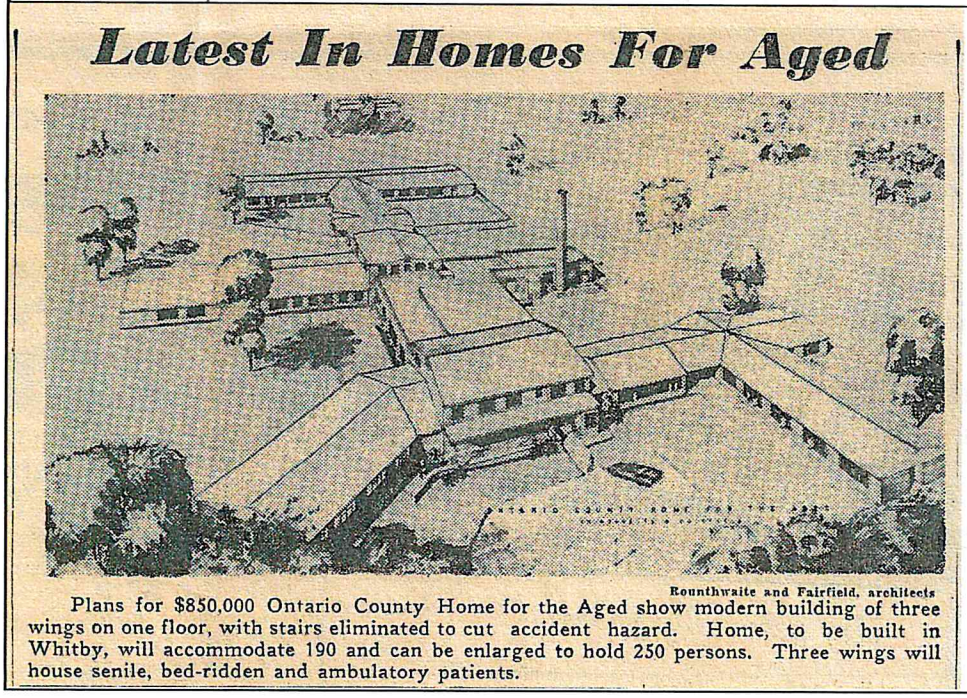
Stay informed of Haliburton County issues with these local papers - available at most stores

THE ECHO HALIBURTON COUNTY · The Times MINDEN ONTARIO · County Life Celebrating arts and culture in the Haliburton Highlands · The Highlander

~ Irondale Calendar of Events ~

Please be sure to check the appropriate website and/or Facebook pages to get up to date information

2025	Unless otherwise noted - Tickets available email historical@IrondaleOntario.ca or call/text 705-457-8438
June 1	**Sunday Services** begin. 10am All are welcome, come as you are. Irondale Community Church Refreshments and conversation after the service.
June 7	**Spring Fling** 11am - 3pm Irondale Church property NO ADMISSION CHARGED Vendors, displays, tours, our popular BBQ, and very successful Bake Sale We are looking for people to sell their crafts and/or unwanted items. Call/text 705-457-8438 with your ideas
June 17	**200th Anniversary of Peter Robinson Immigration** Nine Ships 1825 Inc. will present an historical overview of the immigration scheme that brought 2000 impoverished Irish settlers to Ontario under Peter Robinson and its relevance to Haliburton County, where descendants later settled. This event is part of the Haliburton Highlands Genealogy Group Speaker Series—see pg 4
Sept 16	**HHGG shares stores of individuals that came to Haliburton County as Home Children.** Meet in the Parish Hall of St Paul's Anglican Church at 7pm. Free admission - see pg 4
Sept 17	Take in the excellent presentation by **Lori Oschefski, President of Home Children Canada.** Lori explains that between 1869 and 1948 over 100,000 children of all ages were brought to Canadian shores from the UK, through child migrant schemes. Event held Minden Cultural Centre starting at 1pm. No admission charged — see pg 4 for more info


Latest In Homes For Aged
Rounthwaite and Fairfield, architects
Plans for $850,000 Ontario County Home for the Aged show modern building of three wings on one floor, with stairs eliminated to cut accident hazard. Home, to be built in Whitby, will accommodate 190 and can be enlarged to hold 250 persons. Three wings will house senile, bed-ridden and ambulatory patients.

The Telegram newspaper (Aug 1950) that George gave me had this item in it as well.

I used to deliver newspapers on the streets around this complex .... many many moons ago when I lived in Whitby.

I was never in the building, tho' it was situated corner of Cochrane St and Dundas St in Whitby.... not far from Henry Street High School.